

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 5-18 are in the application. Claims 1 and 5-18 have been amended. Claims 2-4 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicants have amended claims 1-18 to clarify the invention, and to remove the reference numbers. Claim 1 has also been amended to include the elements of claims 2-4, now canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Alt et al. Claims 1-3 and 5-16 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Meltzer et al. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Alt et al. in view of Unger. Applicants respectfully traverse.

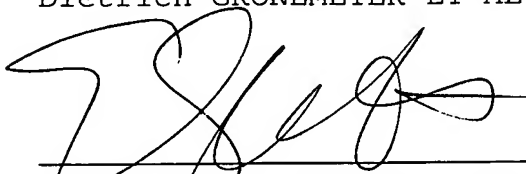
Neither Alt nor Meltzer disclose interruptions which are

situated in different positions that do not lie on top of one another, in different layers of the structural part, as is now claimed in amended claim 1. These interruptions are provided to avoid closed current paths within the individual layers of the structural part and to prevent occurrence of eddy currents during MR imaging so that the medical implant according to the invention does not shield against the high-frequency fields that are radiated in. Moreover, because no interruption is provided in a layer at a position in which an interruption is situated in another layer, the structural integrity of the overall arrangement is guaranteed.

Regarding independent claim 17, Alt discloses using a contrast agent to change the paramagnetic properties of tissue, but fails to disclose that such a change is used to make the paramagnetic susceptibility of the blood in the surroundings of the medical implant essentially equal to the paramagnetic susceptibility of the medical implant itself.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 5-8 as amended are patentable over the cited references. Early allowance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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